



Columbia County Voter's Pamphlet

# Primary Election May 19, 2020

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Dear Columbia County Voters:

The Columbia County Voters' Pamphlet is published to inform voters with regard to the local candidates and measures from local jurisdictions within the boundaries of Columbia County. I would like to take this opportunity to pass on to you information regarding the May 19, 2020 Primary Election and your ballot:

- **Coronavirus (COVID19).** All Oregonians have had to make sacrifices and crucial changes in their daily lives in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Schools and businesses have closed, as has most daily life outside of your homes. However, thanks to Oregon's well established Vote-by-Mail system the May 19<sup>th</sup> Primary election will be carried out as scheduled.
- **Ballot mailing dates.** Ballot packets will be mailed to the county at large beginning April 29<sup>th</sup>. Expect to see your ballot during the week of May 4<sup>th</sup>-May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Returning your voted ballot by mail.** Legislation passed in 2019 has mandated ballots returned by mail will have postage paid by the state. The ballot packets you will receive this election include a redesigned ballot return envelope that will not require a stamp. Please remember to sign your envelope. It is advisable that voted ballots should not be mailed back later than Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. If a ballot cannot be mailed by this day, please visit a local drop site and use a drop box. Ballots received by mail after May 19<sup>th</sup> will not be accepted.
- **Vote Early.** This year, voters no longer have to pay for postage to return their ballots by mail so it's an excellent opportunity to **vote without leaving home.**
- **Ballot Dropsites.** A list of current ballot dropsites and their hours of availability as of this writing can be found on page 8 of this insert. Please keep in mind that circumstances may dictate change, and if so this list will be updated and posted to the County Elections website.
- **Stay Safe.** Please heed official guidance and rules regarding the current public health threat of COVID-19. Vote from home, vote early, vote by mail. Most Elections services and resources are available online at the county website or at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov). Call County elections at (503)397-7214 or email [elections@columbiacountyor.gov](mailto:elections@columbiacountyor.gov) for more information.

**Make sure your vote counts!** Ballots must be received by the Elections Office, no later than 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, to be counted.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your County Clerk.

Elizabeth "Betty" Huser  
Columbia County Clerk

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## ATTENTION

This is the beginning of your county voters' pamphlet. The county portion of this joint voters' pamphlet is inserted in the center of the state portion. Each page of the county voters' pamphlet is clearly marked with a color bar on the outside edge. All information contained in the county portion of this pamphlet has been assembled and printed by your County Clerk.

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Columbia County

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Voter Registration

Qualifications to register to vote

To register to vote in Oregon, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- A resident of Oregon
- At least 16 years old

If you are not yet 18 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.

How to register to vote

ONLINE. Register to vote online (or check your registration status at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov)).

MANUALLY. Complete an Oregon Voter Registration Card. Registration cards are available at any county elections office or at designated



Margaret C Magruder

**OCCUPATION:** Columbia County Commissioner; Managing Partner, Oregon Shepherd, LLC; Owner/Operator, Magruder Farms

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Insulation Manufacturing Company Owner; Coordinator, Lower Columbia River Watershed Council; Third Generation Columbia County Farmer; 4-H Leader; Community Volunteer; Mother; Grandmother

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** MA, Syracuse University; BA, Political Science, Willamette University; Clatskanie High School Graduate

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** Elected: Columbia County Commissioner; Precinct Committee Person; Columbia 5J School Board; Appointed: Columbia County Budget Committee; Clatskanie-Quincy CPAC; Oregon State Weed Board; Oregon Sheep Commission; Oregon Board of Agriculture; American Lamb Board; Columbia County Extension Budget Committee

Priorities:

**Livability:** Columbia County residents want great schools, beautiful parks, public safety, good roads, support for veterans and access to other local government services. I will make these goals a priority by budgeting conscientiously, working to attract new businesses, and supporting responsible growth of new and existing businesses.

**Local Jobs:** Many county residents must commute for their work. My priority is to achieve a balance between large industries, small business, natural resource industries and agriculture. I will strive to bring more family-wage jobs to our county while still being conscious of our current resources and environment.

**Recreation:** We have one of the most beautiful and scenic counties in the state. Our river provides an abundance of recreational activities. Our trails offer access to beautiful woodlands. I will listen to the desires of our citizens and work collaboratively to ensure our county continues to be a great place to live and raise a family.

Endorsements

NW Oregon Labor Council

#Timberunity

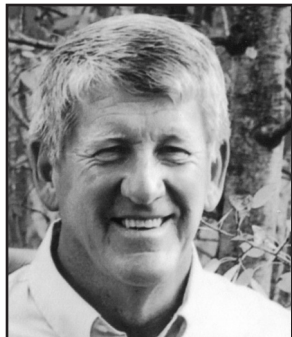
[www.facebook.com/MagruderforCommissioner](https://www.facebook.com/MagruderforCommissioner) OR [www.margaretmagruder.com](http://www.margaretmagruder.com)

(This information furnished by Margaret C. Magruder)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

# Columbia County

## Commissioner, Position 1



**Wayne  
Mayo**

**OCCUPATION:** Contractor

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Contractor, lumber broker

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** OIT, PSU, no degree;  
St. Helens High School

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** Scappoose planning;  
St. Helens Parks

1. INCREASE DEPLETION FEE - The round granite rock found along Scappoose and Deer Island deposited years ago when the flood receded is unique. The flatter rocks quit rolling upriver near the Bridge of the Gods. The hardness and shape of the Columbia County rock make it perfect for concrete. The slurry coats it completely creating less voids in poured walls. Little finish work is needed.

We are missing out. Why?

Alaska provides voter-residents with oil royalties. Columbia County should be reaping more than \$.15/ton. I think \$.60/ton is better. And that's a bargain. The State charges \$.91/ton. Earmark it to upgrade roads, bridges, culverts, ditches, curbing within the county guarantees how it's spent. It should be calculated equitably with Vernonia, St. Helens, Clatskanie, Scappoose, Rainier, and Columbia City based on a lineal-square foot/road+bridge surface. The Weighmaster will provide an estimate of tonnage every day based on barge and truck count. 12k tons daily = \$5,400/day additional income.

People losing their jobs if this fee is increased is nothing but a scare tactic.

The 2 largest mining companies are not local; They are international.

2. REALIGN COUNTY GOVERNMENT - Commissioners go to part-time and hire a seasoned manager. Better production, efficiency and budget management. Commissioners are voter responsive, not seasoned, appropriately educated managers.

**INDIVIDUALS CALL ME. SPECIAL INTERESTS NEVER DO.**

*(This information furnished by Wayne Mayo)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

## Commissioner, Position 1



**Tricia  
Stockwell**

**OCCUPATION:** Self Employed

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Owner; Columbia River Auto Glass, LLC; Office Manager; TDA Systems, Inc; 911 Dispatcher; LOCOM and NORCOM

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** BPST State of Oregon: Certified 911 Dispatcher; Clackamas Community College, Associates Degree; Rex Putnam High School, Diploma

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** None

As a born and raised Oregonian, with my husband Erin who grew up here in Columbia County, we brought our family back here over 13 years ago. We have two daughters and live in Columbia City. I've witnessed this community change.

Columbia County has lost too many large companies that used to support us, with the jobs and services they provided. As residents, we can no longer sustain the services we've come to know, love and demand. We are relying too heavily on taxes paid primarily by us for these necessary services, increasing our cost of living without living wage jobs, or even jobs within our communities. Columbia County has become a bedroom community, with so many people going to Portland for work, in turn those people spend their hard earned money in businesses and for services outside the county. Small business owners suffer, families suffer and our community suffers from these losses. We need to bring more business to Columbia County and more importantly more jobs, to create a more livable community for everyone.

Having business locally will reduce the tax burden on individuals within the community, provide good paying local jobs, which will support our schools with additional funding, our services for police, fire and medical needs, and restore Columbia County, causing it to become a self sustaining community again.

We need to be fiscally responsible and live within a budget. I firmly believe there is room for administrative cost cutting and will make sure to look for those cuts if and when I'm elected beginning with Commissioners salaries.

We need to reduce taxes, have strong schools, good paying jobs and support small business!

*(This information furnished by Tricia Stockwell)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

# Columbia County

## Commissioner, Position 1

## Commissioner, Position 3



**Brandee A  
Dudzic**

**OCCUPATION:** Columbia County Law Librarian; Founder of Repatriate Our Patriots, a Veterans Nonprofit

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Conflict Resolution Educator; Teen Bystander Intervention Expert; Medic, Oregon ARMY National Guard; Legal Assistant; Domestic & Sexual Violence Advocate

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Portland State University: Master of Science, Conflict Resolution; Bachelor of Science, Social Science; Certified Oregon Court-Appointed Mediator; U.S. ARMY: Fort Sam Houston, 232nd Medical Battalion (68W), NREMT Certification

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** Columbia Community Mental Health, Board of Directors Vice President; Columbia County Democrats Precinct Committee Person

I am running for County Commissioner because I want to represent the people of Columbia County and your needs. I will bring my military and educational experiences to the Board of Commissioners to **help move Columbia County forward**, because I believe **we cannot afford to wait**.

If elected, I will:

- **Lead** for the next generation and beyond. I believe our children and the development of a sustainable economy are our future.
- **Protect the environment** to keep Columbia County livable and competitive.
- Find **solutions** to our housing crisis.
- Leverage tourism and recreation opportunities in Columbia County to **generate revenue and create jobs**.
- **Earn your trust** by promoting transparency, community involvement, and access to local government.

**I am not a politician.** I am a **veteran**, a **mother** of 3, and your **neighbor**. I don't take money from fossil fuels, timber industries, or corporate dollars of any kind. **I am free to be the voice of the people. Your needs are my needs.**

To learn more about Brandee, please visit [www.brandee2020.com](http://www.brandee2020.com)

### Endorsements

Columbia County Democratic Party  
Nancy Ward, Columbia County Port Commissioner  
Doug Morten, President, St. Helens City Council  
Ginny Carlson, St. Helens City Council  
Sharon Meieran, Multnomah County Commissioner  
Claire Hall, Lincoln County Commissioner  
Seely Mint Farm  
Dan Serres, Columbia Riverkeeper  
Sunrise PDX  
Columbia County Coalition for Human Dignity  
Melissa Busch, Oregon Nurses Association  
Dr. Tom Hastings, Founder, Oregon Peace Institute  
Sean McNabb  
Joe Lewis  
Clean Columbia County  
Envision

*(This information furnished by Brandee Dudzic)*

**The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))**



**Alex  
Tardif**

**OCCUPATION:** Columbia County Commissioner

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Tax Accountant, Income Tax Auditor State of Oregon.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Graduate of Scappoose High School; University of Portland - Bachelor in Business Administration: Accounting; AOC County College; NACO Leadership Academy

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** Scappoose School Board Budget Committee; Columbia County Budget Officer; Association of Oregon Counties: Board of Directors Treasurer

Community Involvement: Columbia Pacific Food Bank, Chamber of Commerce, Columbia Community Mental Health, Local Public Safety Council, Columbia County Tourism Initiative, Scappoose Economic Development,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your County Commissioner since being elected in 2016. I am running for re-election because I believe in our community. I have enjoyed working vigorously for the last three years and am eager to finish the work we have started. As your elected official, I have continuously advocated for transparency and accountability within government. I believe the public has a right to know how government works, how they can participate in decision-making and where their taxes go.

I have 13 years of accounting and financial experience. Serving as Columbia County's budget officer the past three years has provided the opportunity to develop a long term strategic financial plan that ensures sustainability for Columbia County. I reduced the county budget by 5%, creating efficiencies within departments. I'm committed to continued responsible stewardship of county spending.

I live in Scappoose with my family where I was born and raised. We have one daughter and are foster parents. I believe in healthy communities. That's why I support business development and intentional growth through affordable housing and family wage jobs. I serve on local boards to gain insight and be part of community progress. I will continue to lead a government that is fiscally responsible, transparent, and accountable, in order to create a strong, vibrant, healthy community. As your Commissioner, I am accessible, approachable, and accountable to you.

Thank you for your continued support.

*(This information furnished by Alex Tardiff)*

**The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))**

# Columbia County

## Commissioner, Position 3



**Casey  
Garrett**

**OCCUPATION:** Director of General Services for Columbia County

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Self-employed General Contractor; Construction Project Manager; Construction Engineer; Operations Management in Construction, Manufacturing and Surface Mining

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** BS Architecture and Project Management, Portland State University; Project Management Certificate Program, Clackamas Community College; Numerous Continuing Education Courses in Management and Regulatory Compliance; K-12, Scappoose, OR

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** Director of General Services, Columbia County; County Administrative Team; County Lands Committee; County Safety Committee; County Risk Management Committee; County Parks Advisory Liaison; CZ Trail Advisory Liaison; Columbia County Tourism Initiative

I'm Casey Garrett and I am running for Columbia County Commissioner Position 3. I have lived in Saint Helens for the past 14 years and was raised outside of Scappoose in the heart of Chapman. I am married and have 2 beautiful daughters, seven and eight years old.

I have nearly 20 years work experience in the private sector, plus 5 years working in government administration. For over 15 years I have managed complex operations, projects and schedules, and multimillion-dollar budgets. I have a track record of success and know how to navigate government processes. I have led efforts to make drastic changes within the county's General Services Department, proving we can do a better job. I take a hands-on approach and am never afraid to get my boots dirty.

I take great pride in the history of our County and want to do everything I can to make it an even better place for our residents, workers and visitors. I am active in our community and have volunteered thousands of hours of my time to support local causes. As your County Commissioner I will work tirelessly to manage public resources responsibly and make the absolute most out of what we have.

**I am for:**

- **Keeping local taxes and fees low**
- **Economic growth and living wage jobs**
- **Increasing access to public lands**
- **Rooting out waste**

Endorsed by #Timberunity PAC

www.caseyforcommissioner.com  
Facebook: @caseygarrett4commissioner

*(This information furnished by Casey Garrett)*

**The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))**

## Commissioner, Position 3



**Jeanne  
Correll**

**OCCUPATION:** Small business owner, Basic Business Bookkeeping, 2008-present

**OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Bookkeeper employed by various firms, 1997 - 2017; Previous employment - plant nurseries, print shop, craft store, Multnomah Falls & Bonneville Dam.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Portland State University - BS, General Studies; Portland Community College - AA, Landscape Design; Peninsula College - AA, Political Science; Stevenson High School - Diploma/Salutatorian

**PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE:** None

I am running for County Commissioner because I love this county and its citizens--**YOU!** I have enjoyed living here most of my life, which has been rich with family, friends, scenic beauty, occupational opportunities, spiritual growth and strong values.

I have had my own bookkeeping business for many years. Now is the time for me to give back. I am an educated hard worker with the time, talents and energy to do just that.

I will listen to **YOU** first, and then work with the other commissioners to implement those ideas. The following are examples of priorities that have emerged in my discussions with neighbors:

**\*Senior Citizens\*** I will strive to represent our shared interests & challenges. I am aware how hard it is for senior citizens to agree to any improvement that requires higher taxes. I plan to explore a system that reduces property taxes for seniors, in hopes it would result in greater approval of proposals requiring increased taxes to all our benefit.

**\*Columbia County Rider\*** I want to find a funding source for this valuable service.

**\*Emergency Preparedness\*** I will work with the leaders here to make sure we are all prepared for whatever emergency we will be facing together.

As an independent candidate, I will be a team player with no hidden agenda or ulterior motives. My late husband, Steve Correll, served on a number of boards in the county. I want to carry the torch to implement his vision and would be greatly honored to serve **YOU** in his place. Thanks for your vote!

www.facebook.com/Correll4Comm

*(This information furnished by Jeanne Correll)*

**The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))**

Columbia County	Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District
Measure 5-281	Measure 5-279
<p><b>BALLOT TITLE</b></p> <p>RENEWAL OF COLUMBIA COUNTY JAIL OPERATING LEVY</p> <p>QUESTION: Shall Columbia County renew a levy of \$0.5797/\$1000.00 of assessed value for four years beginning in FY2022 for Jail Operations? This measure renews current local option taxes.</p> <p>SUMMARY: In 2014, voters approved a three year levy for all Jail operations. In 2017, voters approved a four year renewal levy for all Jail operations which will expire in 2020.</p> <p>The three primary funding sources for the Jail are the County's General Fund, Federal bed rentals, and the existing Jail Operating Levy. Since the 2014 levy passed, the County General Funds support for the Jail has remained consistent. Federal bed rental revenue has also remained stable but is not a guaranteed revenue source. The County cannot fully fund operation of the Jail without renewal of the Levy.</p> <p>Prior to the 2014 Levy, the County was required to reduce Jail beds for local inmates to 25, and anticipated a full closure of the Jail without the Levy. The operating Levy currently supports a total of 100 local beds, and funding for the constitutionally required food, clothing, management, and health care for inmates. Renewal of the Levy will pay for continued operation for the Jail through FY 2024-2025.</p> <p>The estimated money raised will be \$3,179,844 in FY 2021-2022, \$3,282,306 in FY 2022-2023, \$3,388,069 in FY 2023-2024, and \$3,497,240 in FY 2024-2025, for an estimated total Levy of \$13,347,459.</p> <p><b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b></p> <p>In 1998, County voters approved a bond levy to fund the construction of a new jail to ease overcrowding in the old courthouse jail. The bond to build the new jail was paid off in 2018. Property taxes collected to pay the bond are no longer being collected.</p> <p>Beginning in 2012, jail beds were cut to save costs after the County General Fund decreased over the previous several years, producing significantly fewer funds for jail operations. Jail operations became unsustainable in 2014, until voters approved a levy of \$0.5797/\$1000.00 assessed value for three years to help fund jail operations and keep the jail open.</p> <p>Prior to the 2014 jail levy, the County was releasing inmates due to a lack of funding. The County force released 582 inmates in 2012; 791 inmates in 2013, and 748 inmates in 2014. Since the levy passed the County has not had to force release inmates. In 2019 the County booked 3,508 inmates into the jail and there were no forced releases. The next four years' jail budget will rely on a combination of revenue from the General Fund, the rental of beds to outside agencies, and the renewal of the jail levy at its current rate of \$0.5797/\$1000 assessed value for four years. The proposed levy presents no rate increase, but will be sufficient to keep the jail operating through FY2025. A property owner with assessed value of \$100,000 would continue to pay \$57.97 per year for four years.</p> <p>The operating funds will be used to provide constitutionally required care of inmates including food, clothing and health care, corrections deputies as well as other corrections staff, in addition to facility maintenance. The revenue will pay for needed capital improvements including a roof replacement. The use of operating funds will continue to be monitored by a citizen committee established by the County (the "JOCAC"). The JOCAC has issued an initial report on Jail financing and operations, including the use of the 2017-2020 Jail levy funds. In examining County quarterly and year-end financial reports the Committee verified that with one correction, all funds raised by the levy, and all other funds raised for Jail operations have either been spent on Jail operation or are in an account reserved for Jail operations. The JOCAC Report stated that the goal of the levy was to support a jail to house offenders in Columbia County with sufficient capability to eliminate early releases. Early releases due to insufficient jail capacity were eliminated on March 12, 2015 and have not been required since.</p> <p>Submitted by: Alex Tardif Columbia County board of County Commissioners, Chair</p> <p><b>NO ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.</b></p>	<p><b>BALLOT TITLE</b></p> <p>FIVE YEAR REPLACEMENT LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING AND OPERATIONS</p> <p>QUESTION: Shall the District issue a local option levy for five years to replace an existing local option levy beginning 2020-2021? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent and will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are subject to the limits of section 11 and 11b, Article of the Oregon Constitution.</p> <p>SUMMARY: The measure, if approved, would authorize the District to levy taxes to support the annual increased costs of fire and emergency medical services and training. The measure would provide for a local option levy at a rate of \$1.24 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value within the District for five years, beginning July 1, 2020. Revenue from the levy would be used to maintain adequate emergency response services within the District, provide additional staffing needs, facilities and apparatus maintenance and expand training for staff and volunteers. The estimated revenue over five years is: Fiscal year 2020-2021-\$348,509; 2021-2022- \$367,678; 2022-2023-\$387,900; 2023-2024-\$409,234; and 2024-2025-\$431,742. Estimated total over the five years=\$1,945,063. This measure would replace an existing local option levy that is set to expire in 2020-2021. For a homeowner with a taxable assessed value of \$200,000 would pay an estimated \$248. The estimated revenue for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best available information at the time from the county.</p> <p><b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b></p> <p><b>What services does Vernonia RFPD provide?</b> The District is the first responder for fire and medical emergencies in its service area providing Basic Life Support for ambulance transport for patients. Fire prevention, public education, aircraft rescue firefighting, and basic rope, water and ice rescue are also provided. It is staffed by 2 administrative firefighter/EMTs and 28 volunteers.</p> <p><b>Who does the District serve?</b> The District provides emergency response services to residents of a 36 square mile area including the City of Vernonia and the surrounding community as well as providing mutual aid to Columbia and Washington County fire districts. The District responded to approximately 640 calls in 2019 for the District's approximately 3800 full-time residents and the many part-time residents.</p> <p><b>How is the District funded?</b> The District is funded primarily through a property tax base.</p> <p><b>How would levy funds be used?</b> Funds would be used to maintain the District's current level of response to fire and medical emergencies. Additionally, it will allow the District to retain a Training officer and employ a fulltime Operations Officer.</p> <p>If approved, the levy would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This measure would replace the current levy which is set to expire June 2021.</li> <li>➤ Retain, hire and train personnel to help ensure response to all life-threatening medical emergencies.</li> <li>➤ Create, promote and support a resident volunteer program to maintain emergency response capabilities to all calls for service.</li> <li>➤ Create, promote and support an out of district volunteer program to increase emergency response capabilities to all calls for service.</li> <li>➤ Keep District responders trained, supplied and equipped with up-to-date equipment such as protective equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, extrication/stabilization equipment, and other life-support equipment</li> <li>➤ Allow for the maintenance of existing equipment and apparatus and the replacement of out-of-dated equipment and to build reserves for future apparatus and equipment replacement</li> <li>➤ Help the District keep pace with recent increases in call volume.</li> </ul> <p>Submitted by: Earl Dean Smith Fire Chief</p> <p><b>NO ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.</b></p>

Ranier Cemetery District	St. Helens School District No. 502
Measure 5-280	Measure 5-282
<p><b>BALLOT TITLE</b></p> <p><b>FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION TAX FOR CEMETERY OPERATIONS</b></p> <p>QUESTION: Shall the Rainier Cemetery District impose \$0.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years for operations beginning in 2020-2021? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three (3) percent.</p> <p>SUMMARY: The Rainier Cemetery District will use the tax revenue from this measure to operate the district at an increased level of service. Without the additional revenue the district will be unable to replace equipment and hire additional part-time staff needed for the daily operation of the district's twelve cemeteries. The proposed rate will raise approximately \$75,166 in 2020-2021, \$81,180 in 2021-2022, \$87,674 in 2022-2023, \$94,688 in 2023-2024 and \$102,264 in 2024-2025 for a total of \$440,972. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate and may not reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.</p> <p><b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b></p> <p>Implementing a five year local option levy for the purposes of cemetery operations will provide funding to increase our level of service to the District by allowing the hiring of a part-time office support staff member and replacing aging equipment. In addition to office support, the additional funding will allow the District to contract for additional landscape maintenance support during the peak mowing season, May 15-July 15. Community members who frequent any one of our twelve cemeteries on a regular basis have commented that the level of maintenance and care has declined.</p> <p>Currently, our Sexton maintains twelve cemeteries (approximately 37 acres of land covering 25 miles between Rainier and Clatskanie, with cemeteries in Quincy/Mayger, Delena, Prescott, Goble, Apiary and West Deer Island), meets with the families, plans and carries out all burials, processes all of the paperwork for burials that is required by the State of Oregon Mortuary Board, as well as, processing all paperwork mandated by his duties as Sexton to the District. By adding the additional support staff, our Sexton will be better able to devote more of his time taking care of the families and their loved ones final resting place, as is his number one priority.</p> <p>The District's permanent tax rate was established in 1962 at \$0.07090 per \$1,000 of assessed value and is severely inadequate to fund current staffing needs, as well as replace the aging equipment used every day to service the needs of the District.</p> <p>This levy would be for five years beginning in 2020-2021 fiscal year. The levy rate of \$0.05 on a home with an assessed value of \$150,000 would be an additional \$7.50 per year.</p> <p>Having adequate staffing levels, much needed equipment and supplies are so very important when taking care of your loved ones.</p> <p>Submitted by: Cyndi M. Warren RCD Bookkeeper</p> <p><b>NO ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.</b></p>	<p><b>BALLOT TITLE</b></p> <p><b>BONDS TO INCREASE STUDENT SAFETY, IMPROVE, REPAIR HIGH SCHOOL FACILITIES</b></p> <p>QUESTION: Shall District increase safety; repair, improve St. Helens High School facilities; update vocational education, technology; issue \$55 million in bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.</p> <p>SUMMARY: If approved, measure would finance improvements to the St. Helens High School campus in St Helens School District No. 502, including:</p> <p>Security, Health, Safety Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create secured enclosed connections between buildings with secure entry vestibule</li> <li>Install cameras, reduce unmonitored entrances</li> <li>Replace fire safety systems</li> </ul> <p>Replace and Improve Aging Buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade windows, insulation</li> <li>Replace heating and cooling systems</li> <li>Update auditorium, athletic spaces, fields, parking</li> <li>Replace roofs</li> </ul> <p>Modernize High School Career, Vocational Training Labs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand, upgrade welding, building construction, automotive and manufacturing</li> <li>Add Medical Career Training Program</li> </ul> <p>Improve, Replace Classrooms, Learning Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace Building A with new connected wing</li> <li>Redesign buildings, add classrooms to accommodate growth</li> <li>Update classroom technology to current standards</li> </ul> <p>Citizen accountability and oversight, including audits of bond projects and expenditures will be required. Bonds may be issued in one or more series with each series maturing in 31 years or less from date of issuance. The incremental levy rate is estimated to be \$0.94 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Actual rates may differ based upon interest rates incurred and changes in assessed values.</p> <p><b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b></p> <p><b>The Board has determined that St. Helens High School faces challenges:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School safety, security and health systems are in need of updates and the campus includes over 80 unmonitored doors.</li> <li>Basic systems like HVAC, roofs, electrical, plumbing are in need of updates and upgrades. Building A of the High School was built in 1958 and Buildings B, C and D have not been updated since 1980.</li> <li>Classrooms lack technology, are crowded and space is needed for hands-on learning.</li> <li>A growing community means crowded classrooms. Current demand for Vocational/CTE programs exceeds capacity.</li> </ul> <p>The School Board seeks voter approval of a \$55 million bond for safety and security improvements, make upgrades and updates to building systems, and improve and modernize learning spaces.</p> <p><b>Community identified priorities:</b> In the spring of 2019 the district formed a bond committee that gathered public input on the needs of the High School. The district at first considered a \$65 million dollar bond but after community feedback, the bond development committee narrowed the project list to the highest priorities and suggested a reduced plan to the School Board.</p> <p><b>The citizens' committee proposed a bond measure to fund the following capital projects to the High School, if approved:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Health, Safety and Security Improvements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create enclosed connections between buildings with secure vestibules at entries</li> <li>Install new cameras and reduce the number of unmonitored entrances</li> <li>Replace outdated or failing fire safety systems</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Update and Repair Aging Buildings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade windows and insulation</li> <li>Repair or replace aging, inefficient heating and cooling systems</li> <li>Improve air quality and daylighting</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Expand Education Opportunities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve and expand the current Career and Technical Education spaces including adding a new medical career program</li> <li>Completely replace Building A classrooms with a new wing connected to the other buildings</li> <li>Convert unusable space in Building B to instructional space</li> <li>Improve and modernize student activity spaces including fields, gymnasiums, theater, arts and auditorium</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Financials:</b> Bonds may be issued in one or more series with each series maturing in 31 years or less from date of issuance. The incremental levy rate is estimated to be \$0.94 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Actual rates may differ based upon interest rates incurred and changes in assessed values.</p> <p><b>District history with bonds:</b> In 2016 voters approved a renewal bond to replace St. Helens Middle School and Plymouth High School (formerly known as CCEC). St. Helens School District completed the projects under budget and opened two new schools in 2019.</p> <p><b>Bond funds can only be used for voter-approved projects:</b> The principal amount cannot exceed \$55 million. Law prohibits the use of bond funds for any expense not listed on the ballot.</p> <p><b>Citizen oversight for bond expenditures:</b> The school board would appoint a citizen oversight committee to ensure that all bond funds are used for the purposes approved by voters.</p> <p>Submitted by: Scott Stockwell, Superintendent</p> <p><b>NO ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.</b></p>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

What If...?

What if I make a mistake on my ballot?

If you make a mistake that cannot be corrected, call the Columbia County Elections Office (503) 397-7214 and **request a replacement ballot**. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received within time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

What if I don't vote on everything on the ballot?

Your ballot will still be counted. If you choose not to vote for a particular office or measure, this is tallied as an "undervote" and the rest of the ballot will be counted as you intended.

What if I don't sign my return envelope?

You will be sent a notice in the mail that you have not signed your ballot. Follow the instructions on the notice in order to remedy your unsigned ballot and it will be counted. You must remedy your ballot by the 14<sup>th</sup> day after the election in order for it to be counted.

What if I don't put my ballot into the secrecy sleeve?

Your ballot will still be counted. The secrecy sleeve is purely optional.

What if I don't receive my ballot?

If you are a registered voter and don't receive your ballot after the following week that ballots are mailed out, call the Columbia County Elections Office at (503) 397-7214.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BALLOT DROP SITE LOCATIONS

**DISCLAIMER:** Due to rapidly evolving events regarding COVID-19, information could be subject to change. Updated information to be posted to County Website.

24 Hour Official Drop Boxes

**Columbia County Courthouse**, lower parking lot  
230 Strand St, St Helens  
**Scappoose City Hall**  
33568 E. Columbia Ave

Official Drop Sites (with hours available)

Clatskanie Library

11 Lillich St, Clatskanie  
Hours: M–W 10 AM – 7 PM  
Th–Sat 10 AM – 530 PM  
Election Day: 10 AM – 8 PM

Columbia County Courthouse, Elections Dept.

230 Strand St, St. Helens  
Hours: M–F 830 AM – 5 PM  
Election Day: 7 AM – 8 PM

Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD

12525 Oregon Highway 202, Mist  
Hours: M–Th 9 AM – 5 PM  
Election Day: 8 AM – 8 PM

Rainier City Hall

106 B St West, Rainier  
Hours: M–F 9 AM – 5 PM  
Election Day: 9 AM – 8 PM

Vernonia Public Library

701 Weed Ave, Vernonia  
Hours: M/W/F 10 AM – 5 PM  
Tu/Th 1 PM – 7 PM  
Sat 10 AM – 4 PM  
Election Day: 12 PM – 8 PM

END OF COLUMBIA COUNTY  
VOTERS' PAMPHLET